

Kodak Refuse
AML Enhancement Rule Project

Perry County
Vicco Geologic Quadrangle

Project Description

The proposed AML Enhancement Rule Project (5.8 acres total) is located in Perry County, near the community of Kodak at Latitude 37° 12' 13"N and Longitude 83° 01' 32"W (See attached map). The site is adjacent to Kelly Fork of Montgomery Creek of the Carr Creek watershed. The estimated 140,000 raw ton refuse pile is a source of environmental problems, including erosion and sedimentation issues, which potentially impact the water quality within Kelley Fork and other nearby, downstream water bodies. Additionally, the refuse poses a potential fire hazard, and the uncontrolled burning of such refuse may impact the general health and safety of nearby residents.

All coal refuse from the project site will be excavated and trucked to a permitted coal processing facility, KYC Red Oak Resources LLC. The refuse disposal area is located at the processing facility. Access to the project site is via existing access roads which are currently being used by active mining operations. A secondary route, which consists of currently permitted haul roads, has also been proposed as an alternative. Watering equipment will be used along associated access roads and within the project site in order to keep dust levels under control. All refuse removal will occur between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday, unless an emergency warrants a change of scheduled work hours.

The refuse pile will be worked by removal consisting of 5 to 10 foot lifts which will be sloped to the back in order to minimize sedimentation related problems. A sediment trap will be used to control any down-slope movement of unconsolidated materials. If deemed necessary, additional sumps and/or diversion berms, or other sediment control devices such as silt fences and hay bales may be used to control runoff. Upon completion of the refuse removal, prompt vegetation and the establishment of a drainage channel, including structures which reduce flow velocity, will be constructed to control surface drainage and establish natural flow patterns. A gas line, which runs through the central portion of the project area, will be buffered by a 10 foot perimeter on each side in order to protect the installation.

The refuse pile, although a previously disturbed area, is currently covered by trees and other vegetation. In order to prevent any takings of the endangered (USESA) Indiana Bat, trees representing potential bat habitat will be removed between November 15 and March 31, with written consent of the DAML Director. Any trees which need to be removed between April 1 and November 14 will require a habitat assessment or a presence/absence survey, performed by a qualified biologist, prior to their removal.

Field inspections have revealed no seepage from the refuse pile. If conditions indicate a potential for water release during removal operations, water will be released in a controlled manner and allowed to bleed off slowly. Sediment structures will be constructed in accordance with DAML design templates, and will remain in place until all disturbed areas have established vegetative cover. The work progression will ensure that surface run-off passes through sediment structures before leaving the project area. A low-water crossing has been proposed within the western portion of the project site. No equipment will be operated within a local stream channel(s) without the Kentucky Division of Water and / or U.S. Corps of Engineers required permits or certifications.

The project site will be vegetated in accordance with a DAML vegetation plan as soon as possible after removal has commenced. Disturbed areas will be scarified, limed, top-soiled, seeded, and mulched. Top soil may be borrowed from on-site locations in order to establish vegetative cover. The entire work area will be graded to a stable configuration. DAML will plant hardwood trees on the reclaimed site as its contribution to the project.